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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/081,488	02/20/2002	Hideko Kagimasa	16869S-043500US	1498
20350	7590	01/23/2006	EXAMINER	
TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER EIGHTH FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834			PANNALA, SATHYANARAYA R	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2164		

DATE MAILED: 01/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
10/081488	2/20/02	Kagimasa, Hideko	168695-043500US
		EXAMINER	
		Sathyanarayanan Pannala	
		ART UNIT	PAPER
		2164	01182006

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

This action is in response to Applicant's amendment and request for reconsideration filed on November 7, 2005.

- 1) Election/Restrictions. Newly submitted claims 15-23 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: The original claims were directed toward a method of documents registration, comparing documents with plurality of documents in specific region and visual display of the information.

The new claims are directed toward a method of receiving, from a terminal device, a request for registration of a document created by a user, extracting from the requested document, text data concerning contents of the requested document in response to the request, searching by the similar document searching means, the plurality of registered documents stored in the document information managing apparatus, based on the text data thus extracted as a seed document, to thereby obtain related information of a registered document having similarity with respect to the requested document and notifying the terminal device of the related information. None of these new features were required for the originally examined invention, and because the new claims are directed toward a different invention than the originally examined claims, the restriction is proper. Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 15-23 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03. The amendment filed on November 7, 2005 canceling all claims drawn to the elected invention and presenting only claims drawn to a non-elected invention is non-responsive (MPEP § 821.03). The remaining claims are not readable on the elected invention for the reasons stated above. The amendment has thus not been entered.

- 2) Non-Responsive Amendment. The reply filed on November 7, 2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant has failed to address the rejections made regarding the originally examined claims. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned amendment appears to be a bona fide attempt to reply, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this notice within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) ARE AVAILABLE.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sathyanarayanan Pannala whose telephone number is (571) 272-4115. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MOHAMMAD ALI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

SRP
Sathyanarayan Pannala
Patent Examiner
January 18, 2006